

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-02 INR-10 IO-14
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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2807

SECDEF WASHDC

USICA WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USNATO

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BELGIUM

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0237

FROM US DEPREP MBFR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: KEBLUSEK PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT
APRIL 19, 1978 (END OF ROUND XIV)

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT
MADE BY AMBASSADOR KEBLUSEK (CZECHOSLOVAK DEL) AFTER
FINAL (168TH) PLENARY SESSION OF ROUND XIV. TEXT
OF Q'S AND A'S FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

BEGIN TEXT:

PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT MADE BY
AMBASSADOR DR. EMIL KEBLUSEK, HEAD OF THE
DELEGATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC,
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ON 19 APRIL 1978

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

TODAY WE HAVE FINISHED THE 14TH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL
REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THESE
NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOW ENTERED INTO A SIGNIFICANT STAGE WHEN IT IS

NECESSARY TO MAKE A FUNDAMENTAL DECISION - WHETHER TO PROCEED ALONG THE ROAD OF A SUBSTANTIAL LOWERING OF THE ENORMOUSLY HIGH LEVEL OF CONCENTRATION OF ARMED FORCES IN THE AREA OR TO FOLLOW THE STILL EXISTING TENDENCIES TOWARDS A CONTINUATION AND FURTHER INTENSIFICATION OF AN UNCHECKED ARMS RACE.

THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FIRST ROAD. THIS IS QUITE NATURAL, BECAUSE - AS IT WAS SAID ON 7 APRIL OF THIS YEAR BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR L.I. BREZHNEV - "DESPITE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS OR OTHER PROBLEM, THERE DOES NOT EXIST TODAY A MORE URGENT TASK THAT WOULD AFFECT THE DESTINY OF EACH MAN IN THE WORLD MORE THAN THAT OF ACHIEVING GENUINE DISARMAMENT".

TOGETHER WITH ITS SOCIALIST ALLIES, THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ENDEAVORS THAT THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD ALSO PLAY A POSITIVE AND CONCRETE ROLE IN THE SOLUTION OF THIS TASK. OUR DESIRE AND OUR READINESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS WERE AGAIN CLEARLY CONFIRMED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION OF 11 APRIL 1978, SIGNED BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND PRESIDENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC GUSTAV HUSAK AND THE CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HELMUT SCHMIDT.

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WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THERE EXIST REAL PREREQUISITES FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF FIRST PRACTICAL RESULTS IN THE FIELD OF REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THIS, HOWEVER, REQUIRES A GOOD WILL AND POLITICAL PREPAREDNESS ON THE PART OF ALL COUNTRIES CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY WILLINGNESS OF ALL ELEVEN POTENTIAL PARTIES OF POSSIBLE AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE INDIVIDUALLY IN EQUIVALENT AND MUTUAL REDUCTIONS OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN CONFORMITY WITH PRINCIPLES AGREED AT PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS IN 1973.

WHAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT THE JUST FINISHED 14TH ROUND OF TALKS IF WE ARE TO EVALUATE THE WORK, WHICH HAS BEEN DONE IN TWO AND A HALF MONTHS, FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW? THE DELEGATIONS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES CONTINUED IN THEIR EFFORTS AIMED AT AN EARLY SOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF THE HIGH LEVEL OF CONCENTRATION OF ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE AGREED PRINCIPLES, PARTICULARLY WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR EACH PARTY. WE REAGRD IT AS A JUST REQUIREMENT THAT ANY FUTURE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE EQUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS FOR ALL STATES PARTICIPATING IN NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT, IN ANY RESPECT

AND AT ANY MOMENT, PROVIDE ANY UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE SECURITY OF OTHER COUNTRIES. WE ENDEAVOR FOR THE CONCLUSION OF AN EQUITABLE AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CARRY OUT INDIVIDUAL REDUCTIONS OF THEIR ARMED FORCES, INCLUDING, NATURALLY, BOTH GROUND AND AIR FORCES AS WELL AS UNITS EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS TOGETHER WITH CORRESPONDING ARMAMENTS AND COMBAT EQUIPMENT. CONCRETE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION OF EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT IN NEGOTIATIONS TO THE REDUCTION PROCESS MUST BE PROPORTIONATE TO ITS MILITARY POTENTIAL IN CENTRAL EUROPE. IN THEIR RESULT THE REDUCTIONS SHOULD PRESERVE THE EXISTING APPROXIMATE MILITARY EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN TWO MILITARY GROUPINGS IN THE REDUCTION AREA AT A LOWER LEVEL OF THEIR ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS. SUCH A MUTUAL, EQUIVALENT AND FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

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EQUITABLE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IS ENVISAGED BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IN THEIR CONCRETE PROPOSALS.

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-02 INR-10 IO-14
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USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

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FROM US DEPREP MBFR

IN THE COURSE OF THE PAST ROUND THE DELEGATIONS OF THE SOCIALIST STATES CALLED UPON THE WESTERN STATES TO GIVE A POSITIVE ANSWER TO THESE CONSTRUCTIVE AND COMPROMISE PROPOSALS. WE ASKED THEM TO RE-EXAMINE THEIR IMPRACTICABLE CONCEPT OF "DISPARITIES", ENVISAGING "ASYMMETRIC" REDUCTIONS, IMPLEMENTATION OF WHICH WOULD INFLICT DAMAGE TO THE SECURITY OF THE WARSAW TREATY COUNTRIES AND WOULD PROVIDE UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES TO THE NATO STATES. THE DEMAND OF THE WEST TO ESTABLISH "COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILINGS" WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SOME OF THE NATO COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR ARMED FORCES AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES, EVEN IF COMPARED WITH THEIR PRESENT LEVEL.

THE DELEGATIONS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES EXERTED MAXIMUM
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EFFORTS IN SEARCH FOR A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE SOLUTION OF THE MAIN TASK OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE REACTED IN A FLEXIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER TO THE SLIGHTEST POSSIBILITY TO ACHIEVE UNDERSTANDING ALSO IN QUESTIONS WHICH ARE CONNECTED WITH THE PRINCIPAL TASK OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES. IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES PROPOSAL OF 25 OCTOBER 1977, THERE HAVE BEEN PRESENTED ADDITIONAL NUMERICAL DATA ON THE MANPOWER OF ARMED FORCES OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WHICH REPRESENTS A POSITIVE RESULT OF THE PAST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE WEST WILL USE THE SUBMITTED DATA FOR CORRECTING ERRORS IT MADE IN ITS EVALUATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. IT IS NECESSARY TO EMPHASIZE THAT WE DO NOT REGARD THE DATA DISCUSSION AS ENDING IN ITSELF. WE REGARD IT AS A MEANS WHICH SHOULD HELP US IN THE SOLUTION OF THE MAIN QUESTIONS AND IN THE PREPARATION OF A CONCRETE AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

THE PAST ROUND HAS SHOWN THAT THE WESTERN COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO UNREALISTIC AND FOR THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES UNACCEPTABLE ELEMENTS OF THEIR INITIAL CONCEPT OF REDUCTIONS. ALSO, THEY HAVE NOT GIVEN US ANY CONSTRUCTIVE ANSWER TO OUR PROPOSAL ON NON-INCREASING THE ARMED FORCES MANPOWER OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS FOR THE PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS. WE CANNOT IGNORE ALSO THE FACT THAT THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF ARMED FORCES OF THE NATO COUNTRIES IN THE REDUCTION AREA IS INCREASING.

AT TODAY'S PLENARY MEETING, FOR THE FIRSTTIME IN MORE THAN TWO YEARS NOW, THE DELEGATIONS OF THE WESTERN STATES HAVE SUBMITTED CERTAIN CHANGES TO THEIR PROPOSALS. IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO MAKE ANY CONCRETE CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THESE CHANGES BEFORE WE HAVE STUDIED THEM CAREFULLY. AT THE SAME TME, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO

ASCERTAIN TO WHAT EXTENT THESE CHANGES WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE
ACHIEVEMENT OF REAL PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO TE WORKING
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OUT OF MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS. IT WILL ALSO BE NECESSARY
TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT THE WESTERN STATES ARE PREPARED TO
GIVE UP THEIR INITIAL ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN UNILATERAL MILITARY
ADVANTAGES TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE SECURITY OF THE SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES.

THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ENDEAVOUR THAT THE QUESTION OF THE
REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE SHOULD
BE SOLVED IN A PRINCIPLED AND EQUITABLE MANNER IN THE INTEREST OF
ALL PARTICIPANTS IN NEGOTIATIONS. IF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES DISPLAY
THE SAME PREPAREDNESS, AND EXERT THE SAME EFFORTS, AS THE SOCIALIST
STATES IN THE SOLUTION OF TASKS BEFORE THE PARTICIPANTS OF VIENNA
NEGOTIATIONS, CONCRETE RESULTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE REACHED IN THE
NEAR FUTURE.

END TEXT. RESOR

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